A BRIEF HISTORY OF SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE ACTIVITY - 1958
KIRBY LUMBER CORPORATION

By Wallace R. Smith and Robert I. Gara

On January 23, 1956, Robert Thatcher of the U. S. Forest Service, during a routine Skidway inspection, identified Southern Pine Beetle galleries on salvage logs on Kirby's Honey Island Skidway. The next few months of 1956 still produced signs of Southern Pine Beetle on Kirby's Silsbee and Honey Island Skidways. Field checking, during 1956, failed to produce any active signs of the insect.

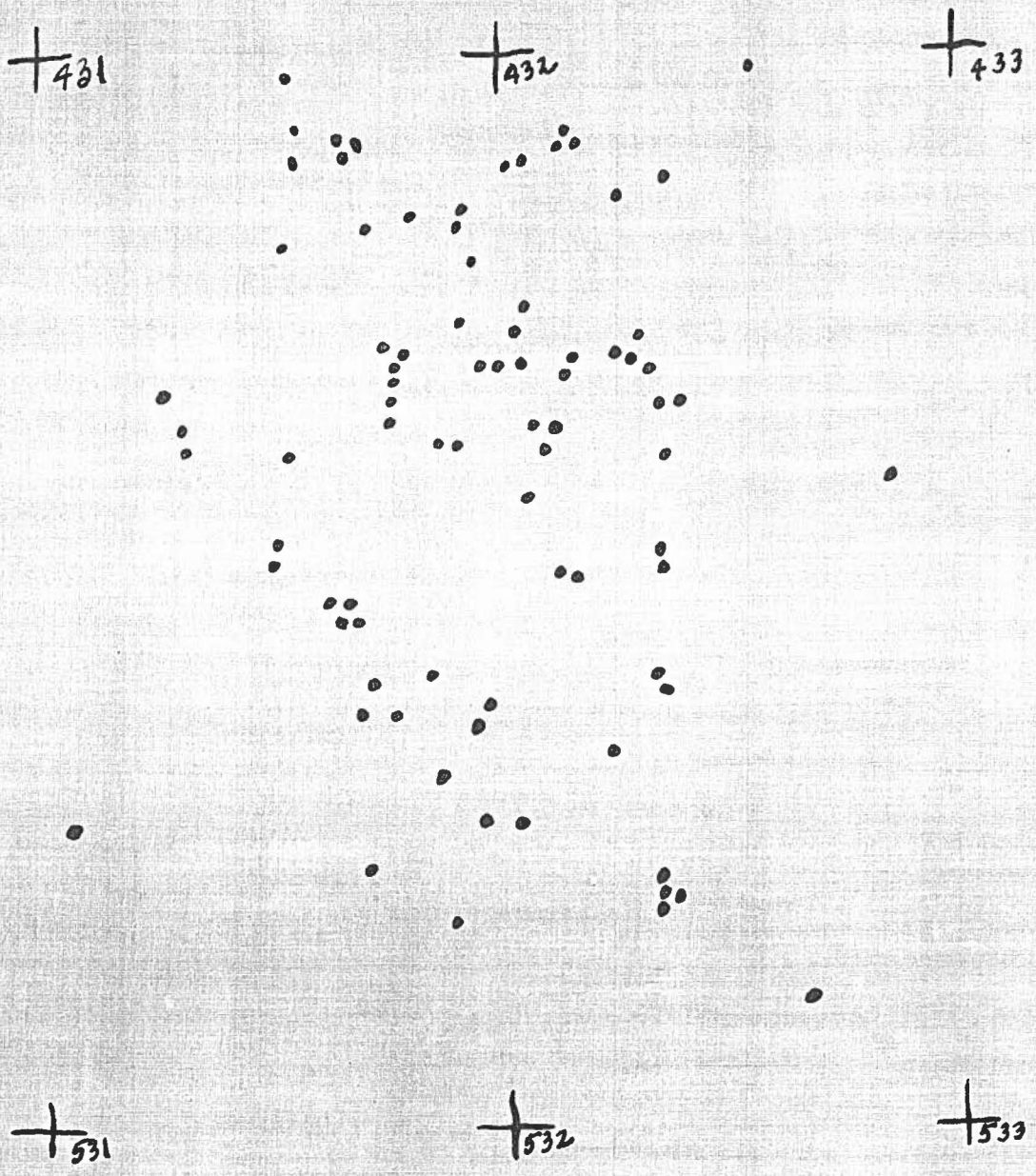
April of 1957 produced the first active infestation of the insect. On April 23, the U. S. Forest Service (Robert Thatcher) found one active tree on Kirby's Force and Smith Survey (6 miles south of Kountze). By April 26, the active trees found on the Force and Smith Survey were increased to nine. These active brood trees were all located in a late 1956 oil burn. All of the active trees were (in order of discovery) felled and sprayed with a B.H.C. solution. All during the summer of 1957 there continued to creep up a smattering of the active insect; mainly on Kirby's Force and Smith Survey. On September 18, Wallace Smith and Bill Bennett conducted a regularly scheduled survey flight over the lower Kountze and Saratoga area. A 2.5-acre spot kill was observed on the Richard Treat Survey, Abstract 434, owned by the Angelina Lumber Company. Investigation of the area revealed a typical Southern Pine Beetle situation. Approximately 20 green trees were in the egg and pupal stage with over 40 trees in the ready-to-emerge stage. Kirby cut and salvaged this area by agreement with Angelina Lumber Company. Mr. Jake Fuller represented Angelina Lumber Company in this operation. All of the brood trees were sprayed. In addition, a 150' isolation strip was cut around the periphery of this 2.5 acre area. Later, after this logging operation, all brood trees under sawlog size were felled and sprayed. The late fall of 1957 produced more scattered brood trees. In one instance, 20 trees were salvaged and sprayed on Kirby's James Walea Survey, Abstract 493.

Machine Copy
Dave M. Clopper

The first hint of the impending 1958 infestation was felt on April 19. A routine survey flight conducted by Messrs. W. R. Smith, Tine and Holt of U. S. Forest Service was made over areas A and B. This flight disclosed several deadenings scattered throughout a large area. These deadenings ranged in size from 3 trees to 1 acre. Upon ground checking, these areas were unquestionably produced by the Southern Pine Beetle. However, all of these areas were in the post-brood stage and beyond control. These findings, nevertheless, indicated the presence of a large beetle population in the area. An aerial flight on April 15, conducted by Smith and Gara, revealed 10 additional spots - these also were in an overwintered post-brood stage. May 9, tree marker for Kirby, Earl Johnson and Bob Gara discovered a new Southern Pine Beetle threat on the J. Walea and T & N O 304 Surveys. These actively infested spots contained from 13 to 20 trees each, and posed a definite threat to Kirby and surrounding lands. The aerial flight of the 10th, conducted by Smith and Gara, readily showed that the beetle was firmly entrenched on various Kirby and outside surveys. On May 12, Kirby instituted an area control via its salvage units. These salvage units systematically combed their defined areas - sighting, spraying and salvaging brood trees as they came to them. By May 19, there were 8 salvage units strategically located to area cover the T & NO 301 and Walea areas.

During this time, on May 13, the Pest Committee met and organized a joint control effort with the Texas Forest Service coordinating the activity under the direction of Art Green. The Texas Forest Service, through Committee assistance, set up crew training projects, detection techniques, and actual suppression activities. Through this systematic approach and Kirby's intensive activities, spots were quickly discovered from the air, ground checked, and suppressed. On May 30, Kirby held a field training trip to observe its approach to this control program. This meeting, along with previous flights, brought out the fact that the area control system Kirby had initiated was not

Location of Southern Pine Beetle
Infestation 1968
Hardin County.
(each dot represents one spot)



keeping abreast of the insect. Kirby immediately went into a "hit the hot spot and salvage later" type of attack. This entailed the hiring of control crews that were equipped for mobility. These crews cut and sprayed the hot spots; later the salvage units followed to salvage and area cover the territory. This mobile crew organization, by June 16, consisted of seven three-man crews. Mr. Bill Todd, Kirby's Project Forester, coordinated this activity. He was responsible for ground checking, flash reports, and delegating crews to control these spots. He also supervised the keeping of sufficient cost accounting records. Later, in July, Robert Gara took over Kirby's control project.

By June 20, the original 30,000 acre infested triangle (Kountze, Saratoga and Sour Lake as the angles) quickly spread northward and later south into Liberty county. (Northward to the Honey Island Area and southward below the Missouri Pacific Railroad.) The control efforts, by the latter part of June, seemed to make great inroads into suppression of the large hot spots. The scattered infested spots were getting smaller as the month ended. By the end of the month, Kirby had only three control crews in operation.

By late July, all the large spots were found and suppressed. After this time, the Kirby suppression program went into its final stage. The program then went into an individual tree control. Kirby flew its holdings each week, noting the individual infested trees. Every other flight was under the auspices of the State Control Project, although Kirby furnished a navigator and observer. The control crews (two remaining crews) found and controlled these singles. Finally, on September 29, a routine flight was made - not a single red top tree was located.

SUMMARY

1. Skidway checking revealed evidence of the insect early in 1956.
2. In April of 1957, active trees were found on the Force and Smith Survey, Abstract 213, in an old burn.
3. On September 18, 1957, a 2.5-acre spot was located on Angelina Lumber

Company's Richard Treat Survey, Abstract 434. With Angelina Lumber Company's permission, this spot was controlled by Kirby.

4. The fall of 1957 produced scattered brood trees on the James Walea Survey, Abstract 493.
5. Flights early in 1958 showed the presence of several post-brood areas - indication of large beetle population.
6. On May 9, a ground check revealed a large active spot on the James Walea, and T&NO 304 Surveys.
7. Early flights through the end of May revealed an increasing amount of active infestation.
8. On May 12, Kirby instituted area control via the salvage units.
9. May 13 produced area wide control - coordinated by the Texas Forest Service.
10. On May 30, Kirby went into the "hit the hot spots and area cover later" program. This produced the seven three-man control crews.
11. By June of 1958, Kirby was controlling spots north and south of the original control area.
12. The end of June ended the large spot control phase and the single tree control efforts began. The control crew forces were finally reduced to six men.
13. On September 29, the last Southern Pine Beetle tree was found and controlled.

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE IN EAST TEXAS, 1957-58

by Wm. H. Bennett

Introduction

During 1957 and 1958, a southern pine beetle outbreak developed in Hardin County, southeast Texas, in the same general area as the disastrous 1950-51 epidemic. Several years of critical drought, terminated by heavy rains and floods in early 1958, followed a weather pattern similar to that associated with the previous outbreak.

Since the 1951 epidemic, State and industrial foresters and Southern Forest Experiment Station entomologists have constantly watched for a recurrence of the southern pine beetle. In the summer of 1956, occasional logs harboring the beetles were found on one skidway at Honey Island. Subsequent field checks and aerial surveys in the vicinity from which the logs were salvaged failed to locate further beetle activity.

In the fall of 1956, Texas foresters were advised that the southern pine beetle might build up unnoticed in stands dying from drought and Ips beetle attack. It was urged that salvage cutting crews, especially in the Big Thicket area, receive training in the recognition of southern pine beetle damage, and that they be encouraged to immediately report any initial activity of this pest.

Developments in 1957

In January, Southern Forest Experiment Station entomologists and Kirby Lumber Corporation foresters discovered by chance a localized infestation of the southern pine beetle near Honey Island in tops left from a recent salvage cutting on a 10-acre burn. How many infested sawlog size trees had been removed was not known, but thorough scouting revealed eight infested pulpwood-size trees remaining on the area. These trees were immediately cut and sprayed. No beetle trees were found on other burned areas in the vicinity.

It was apparent that the men who had marked the infested sawlog trees for cutting, felled them, skidded them out, transported them to the mill yard, and scaled them had not observed or recognized the characteristic signs of the insect. Consequently, during March training sessions on the recognition and importance of the southern pine beetle were conducted at various points. Approximately 120 cutting-crew foremen, scalers, timber markers, and foresters attended. They were urged to examine trees being marked, felled, or scaled and promptly report any evidence of the insect.

In February, a second fire occurred adjacent to the older burn. In late April, nine more infested trees were located and treated, seven of which were in the burned areas and two in adjacent unburned timber. In the following months, no additional reports of the beetle were received, although all foresters in east Texas had been alerted to look for it, and did.

In June an aerial pest detection survey was made over southeast Texas covering eight million acres. Private timberland owners, the Texas Forest Service, and the Southern Forest Experiment Station, cooperated in the survey, each group assuming responsibility for a specific flight area and sharing the cost. Representative foresters assisted Station entomologists in navigating, observing, and mapping, and served as ground checkers to investigate suspected infestations detected from the air. Particular attention was given to the Honey Island area and former epidemic areas. Only seven spots of recently killed pine were observed, none of which proved to be caused by the southern pine beetle. There was no evidence of active infestation near Honey Island or in former epidemic areas.

In September, another cooperative survey was made covering two million acres in and around the beetle hazard area. Approximately two miles from the burned Honey Island stands a 2-acre group of dead and dying pines was observed. Ground inspections revealed an active infestation of the southern pine beetle. Several smaller and less active spots were later found nearby, but inaccessibility and deep floodwaters delayed thorough scouting and hampered control.

Additional flights were made by industrial foresters in October, but autumn hardwood coloration made observation difficult. Ground inspections by R. C. Thatcher of the East Texas Research Center and Kirby Lumber Corporation foresters, however, located fresh scattered attacks in the Honey Island area. Infested trees became more plentiful during the winter and were more heavily attacked than earlier in the year. It became evident that the southern pine beetle was building up in east Texas. Timber owners were advised to make every effort to stamp out incipient infestations as quickly as they appeared.

Developments in 1958

Continued beetle activity in Hardin County during the late winter and spring prompted another detection survey in April over the same hazard area of two million acres.1/ A new system of immediately reporting survey results to ground checkers was started. Flash reports describing twelve group kills suspected of being attacked by the southern pine beetle and two areas having high concentrations of single dying trees were mailed to five ground checkers. Six spots, all in Hardin County, were found to be attacked by the southern pine beetle. Additional scattered infested trees were also found in the vicinity of active spots.

Two later flights were made by Kirby foresters over their lands. At least six additional small southern pine beetle kills and numerous scattered dying trees were observed in Hardin County. Ground inspections

made by Thatcher and Kirby foresters confirmed the opinion that a serious situation was rapidly developing. All of the trouble appeared to be restricted to an area of 65,000 acres, and included several large ownerships and many small holdings.

In mid-May, an emergency meeting of the Texas Forest Pest Committee at Silsbee was attended by State and industrial foresters and representatives of the U. S. Forest Service Regional Office and Southern Forest Experiment Station. Approximately 250,000 acres in Hardin County (including 65,000 acres in which the southern pine beetle was considered to be in a potential epidemic stage) were delineated for control action. It was agreed that Federal Pest Control Funds would be requested and plans were made to quickly initiate an aggressive control program.

The Texas Forest Service assumed leadership in coordinating the over-all control program, and cutting and spraying crews were organized and trained as quickly as possible. Texas Forest Service and industrial foresters made bi-weekly operational flights over the area. Spot infestations were located and crews felled and treated beetle trees with benzene hexachloride concentrate in fuel oil.

At first, detection and control efforts were complicated because the beetles were mostly in scattered trees. The crowns of many infested trees had not faded and were indistinguishable from the air. Furthermore, much of the area was waist-deep in floodwater, without good roads, and covered with dense underbrush. The cost of scouting and treatment was $8 per tree.

1/Details of the survey are summarized in a "Preliminary Report of the Aerial Pest Detection Survey of the Southern Portion of East Texas, April 1958," by W. R. Holt, and "Results of the April 1958 Aerial Pest Detection Survey of East Texas," by Wm. H. Bennett.

In early June, the weather turned hot and dry. Most beetle areas became accessible and cutting and spraying of infested trees progressed steadily and at less cost. Also, the beetles began attacking groups of trees rather than aingle ones, so that spotting and treatment became much easier.

In late June, another area-wide cooperative survey was made, covering approximately eight million acres.2/ Eleven infested spots were detected, but all were in the outbreak area and already had been located for control. Ground examination showed that broods were developing rapidly and young beetles were ready to leave the trees by the time the crowns showed slight fading. Control crews were increased in an attempt to check further spread of the beetles.

By late July, the outbreak was considered to be under control. Aerial observers had difficulty in finding fresh attacks. In mid-August, however, two small infestations were located in northeast Liberty County south of the outbreak area. Operational flights and ground checking continued until fall hardwood coloration made it impossible to distinguish red-topped pines, but no new spot infestations were found.

Current Developments

In early 1959, reconnaissance flights and ground inspections have revealed several small spot infestations and single infested trees. As a result, a 1-½ million acre cooperative detection survey has been scheduled for April 14. A general cooperative survey over all of southeast Texas will be made in June or July.

2/ Details of the survey are summarized in a "Report of the Aerial Forest Pest Detection Survey of East Texas, June 1958," by W. H. Bennett and W. R. Holt

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE ACTIVITY IN WEST HARDIN COUNTY, TEXAS

1957-1958

By R. C. Thatcher

Initial population increases in 1957

The first southern pine beetle activity of any consequence in southeast Texas since the 1950-51 outbreak was noted on Kirby Lumber Corporation lands between Kountze and Saratoga and south of FM Road 770 in February 1957. Two contiguous wildfires covering a total of 33 acres and several small oil fires along the adjoining Gulf pipeline apparently provided the opportunity for the beetle to increase almost unnoticed in association with Ips engraver beetles. Limited southern pine beetle activity occurred within the burned areas and adjacent unburned area throughout 1957 despite frequent checks and salvage-spraying efforts of the company.

General investigation of the area in which this first activity was detected resulted in the finding that there had been scattered southern pine beetle activity throughout the area for at least one year preceding detection.

In September 1957, a cooperative pest detection flight over Area 1 resulted in the detection of an active 1.4 acre spot infestation on Angelina County Lumber Company lands several miles south of the above-mentioned area. Again, a general area search indicated previous southern pine beetle activity over a wide area during the previous year.

Beetle activity increases in 1958

Evidence of southern pine beetle activity on industrial and other holdings in the triangle formed by Kountze-Sour Lake-Saratoga in west Hardin County appeared rather rapidly during the late spring and early summer of 1958. The frequency of Thatcher's visits to the infestation zone was therefore increased from monthly to biweekly trips beginning in March and continuing through the end of July.

During the outbreak period in 1958, approximately 28 southern pine beetle infestations ranging in size from one to over 250 trees were visited. Experience information was accumulated as follows:

May 1958: Generally small spot and single-tree kills; attacked trees primarily in the dominant class; poor drainage; palmetto-shrub understories; sample of infested-salvage (286 trees): 3-24 inch diameter range, mean - 12.5 inches; total pine and hardwood basal area in infested areas visited: 70-250 sq. ft. range, mean - 116 sq. ft.

June 1958: Considerable increase in size of infestations; all crown classes attacked; variable site conditions - poor to fair drainage, palmetto-shrub, hardwood, herbaceous-hardwood, herbaceous-shrub-hardwood understories; sample of infested-salvage (564 trees): 2-30 inch diameter range, mean - 12.5 inches; total pine and hardwood basal area in infested areas visited - 90 - 260 sq. ft. range, mean - 157 sq. ft.

July 1958: Additional large spot infestations (over 75 trees) although few in number; all crown classes attacked; variable site conditions - poor to fair drainage, shrub-hardwood understories; sample of infested-salvage (63 trees): 6-30 inch diameter range, mean - 12.7 inches; total pine and hardwood basal area in infested areas visited - 130-175 sq. ft. range, mean - 152 sq. ft.

A number of additional features were noted in the infestation areas visited during the season. These may be summarized as follows:

1) By the end of May southern pine beetle brood development was so rapid that callow adults were in the outer bark at DBH by the time that initial crown fading began. Pitch tubes were profuse from the stump to the mid-crown. Predaceous Clerid and Ostomid larvae were relatively abundant beneath and in the bark.

2) During May and early June a number of scattered relatively large diameter trees in the area southeast of Saratoga were found attacked by ambrosia beetles. The absence of southern pine beetle activity or mechanical injury and the occurrence of generally sparse crowns indicated some type of a stress situation.

3) Limited additional beetle activity in marginal or adjacent area trees following control of large spot infestations indicated an apparent need for at least one post-control check.

4) Several visits to a large group kill on Kurth Lumber Company lands in June illustrated the speed with which populations move during favorable periods. At least 50 additional green trees became infested in a five-day period.

5) Clerid and Acanthocinus adults and large Hymenopterous wasps were observed on green trees at the time of beetle attack. These associated forms destroy large numbers of attacking beetles both during attack and subsequent brood development.

6) An examinatinn of newly attacked green tree root systems in late June indicated heavy mortality of root tips.

7) The cutting of one hundred yard green isolation strips around infestation areas on one company's lands provided stumps and slash for a rather heavy build-up of black turpentine

beetle and Ips engraver beetles.

8) By late June, mixed Ips and southern pine beetle populations were commonly found in scattered trees in the general infestation zone.

9) During the outbreak period, infestations were frequently found associated with one of the following disturbances: fire damage, hardwood,tie operation injuries to residual pines, saltwater overflow, lightning strikes, blow-downs, lodged trees, and root damaged trees.

P6.3562

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5.4121

College Station, Texas
August 26, 1958

Mr. Thomas L. Carter, President
Texas Lumber Manufacturers Association
c/o W. T. Carter and Brother
Camden, Texas

Dear Tom:

This letter and the attachment are in response to yours of the 13th. The delay was regrettably unavoidable.

Control of the southern pine beetle this year is a good example of what can be achieved by cooperative action which commenced in August 1952 when the Texas Lumber Manufacturers Association appointed a committee that later named itself the Texas Forest Pest Committee. It held its first meeting on January 7, 1953.

Kirby Lumber Corporation has taken the initiative among the landowners in so far as interest and action in the control of the current beetle outbreak. In general, the attitude of all the landowners involved has been excellent.

Approximately 62 spots, ranging in size from 0.1 acre to approximately 5.0 acres and each with brood trees ranging from 3 to more than 100, were treated since November 1957. Had the beetles in the trees in the infested spots not been controlled, there would have undoubtedly been a terrific build-up of insect population comparable to what occurred in the summers of 1950 and 1951. We are of the opinion that the control work by the landowners kept the beetles in check.

D4

Private owners and the Texas Forest Service jointly have spent an estimated $27,000 to date in control of the insect during the current epidemic. Almost all of this was spent by landowners.

When I suggested to George Stanley that he write to Governor Daniel about funds, it was in the period when the population build-up was at a rapid rate. Some of us were alarmed about it because, had the epidemic moved onto lands owned by persons who were not interested, the public would have had to assume the control cost. The Texas Forest Service has very little elasticity in its budget, so the funds it could make available for the beetle control program were quite limited, e.g., to take care of the situations comparable to what occurred on the Ferguson lands referred to for July 28 on the attached chronology.

The epidemic is presently under control, but we'll continue to be vigilant.

Machine Copy
Sent Dr. R. B. Crozier
10-21-66

The greatest deficiency in the current beetle control program is the apparent lack of willingness of the Texas Commissioner of Agriculture to work with the Pest Committee and Texas Forest Service in the exercise of its police powers. Perhaps this attitude will improve if and when Stanley writes to Commissioner White as I suggested on July 30th. The Commissioner has not responded to advances made by the Texas Forest Service in this matter, but, based upon his conversation with Assistant President Angell in October of 1957, his attitude is likely to change if either the Pest Committee or Texas Lumber Manufacturers Association writes to him to request action by his agency in the exercise of its police powers. At the moment, it seems that there may be no need for the use of police power, but there is just no way to forecast when the beetle will again become rampant. Even though the Governor might make money available for beetle control, these funds are for use primarily for control on lands of recalcitrant owners. Unless there is police power available, we know that some landowners will do nothing. Fortunately we had only one case, viz, Ferguson, where this situation existed. You no doubt remember that the Texas Forest Service lacks police power to control pests.

There was an item of $25,000 in the appropriation bill of the Texas Department of Agriculture for control of grasshoppers, ants and similar pests, but this was almost exhausted by the latter part of July, mostly in the control of grasshoppers.

For your information, there is enclosed herewith (a) a copy of the tentative agreement arrived at by Young and Green of this agency and Edwards of the Texas Department of Agriculture on June 24th; (b) a copy of Charlie Chapman's letter to Folweiler dated July 18, 1958; and (c) a copy of the draft of agreement submitted by Folweiler to Chapman on July 23rd. There has been no communication between the two state agencies since my visit to the office of the Texas Department of Agriculture on July 23rd.

If I have overlooked supplying you with any information you need, please bring the matter to my attention.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely,

A. D. Folweiler
Director

ADF/bc
Attachment

cc: Mr. A. E. Cudlipp

Chronology of Events in the Recent Epidemic of the Southern Pine Beetle in Southern Hardin County and Vicinity

1957

Mid-June: Aerial reconnaissance flight by U. S. Forest Service in cooperation with Texas Forest Pest Committee detected some very suspicious areas in Hardin County, but no follow-up action taken.

September 19: Cooperative aerial reconnaissance, followed by ground checking, established the presence of the beetle in several small spots in Hardin County.

October 23: E. L. Angell, Vice President of Texas A & M College System, inquired personally of John White, Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, whether his agency was willing to exercise police powers it has to aid in the control of the southern pine beetle. Answer was in affirmative, provided landowners requested this action.

October 29-30: Southern Forest Experiment Station, USFS, made an aerial survey; some groups of red-tops were found in Hardin County.

October 30: U. S. Forest Service critical of lack of action by Texans; discussed at Texas Forest Pest Committee meeting of October 30. Follow-up procedure to aerial reconnaissance developed by Pest Commitèee.

November: Some beetle control work was done by Kirby crews on its own lands and on Angelina County Lumber lands.

1958

January 16: George Stanley was informed by Bennett of U. S. Forest Service that Thatcher of U. S. Forest Service and Kirby foresters had found fresh southern pine beetle activity near Honey Island.

Mid-January: Thatcher of USFS, Cara of Kirby and Green of Texas Forest Service found individual trees with infestations, but, after these found, Green couldn't find any from the air. There was abundant rain that probably reduced "sorrel-topping" of the pines under beetle attack.

April 9: Cooperative aerial detection survey made 9 and 10 of April. 10 small groups found and 20-40 singles in Hardin County. Brood trees found on Champion and Keith and Angelina lands.

April 23: Stephenson wrote George Stanley that there is "- - considerable population of beetles" in area bounded by Sour Lake, Batson and Kountze and cautioned about need for intensive local aerial surveys.

May 6: Folweiler suggested to George Stanley need for meeting to coordinate efforts of the several companies, the Texas Forest Service, the U. S. Forest Service and Texas Department of Agriculture. Stanley agreed to call a meeting.

May 13: Meeting was held at Silsbee. Decision made that Texas Forest Service would coordinate beetle control work.

May 21: George Stanley wrote to John White suggesting he send a representative to the Woodville meeting scheduled for May 27 when details of the project, or the "who does what and when" were to be agreed upon.

May 27: Meeting of representatives of members of Pest Committee was held at Woodville as first step in Texas Forest Service redeeming responsibilities it accepted at the Silsbee meeting, i.e., serve as project coordinator. At this meeting Texas Forest Service submitted a "Plan for Control of Southern Pine Beetle Infestation". Travis Edwards of the Houston office of Texas Department of Agriculture was present; also Alvis Owen of the Atlanta, Georgia office of the U. S. Forest Service. An estimate of cost of the operation had been prepared by the Texas Forest Service. These estimates were based on the recent experience of the Kirby Lumber Corporation in controlling the beetle and assumed that there would be an insect population build-up comparable to that of 1950. The cost estimate seemed very disconcerting to the companies represented.

June 6: Project Coordinator commenced making bi-weekly aerial reconnaissance flights over the area of heavy infestation, viz, bounded by a line drawn from Kountze to Sour Lake to Batson. Individual companies did their own ground checking for confirmation and subsequent action.

June 9: Cooperative agreement between U. S. Forest Service and Texas Forest Service signed to do control work on southern pine beetle. This agreement made possible by the Forest Pest Act, Public Law 110.

June 13: Texas Forest Service explained by letter to landowners who had done control work how to submit expenses incurred in beetle control so that 1/3 of the cost could be reimbursed by U. S. Forest Service.

June 20: Folweiler suggested to George Stanley that he, as chairman of the Texas Forest Pest Committee, write to Governor Daniel to determine whether the Governor would assist in financing the control of the beetle epidemic.

June 24: Don Young and Green of Texas Forest Service met with Travis Edwards of Houston office of Texas Department of Agriculture to discuss details of how Texas Forest Service personnel would assist Department of Agriculture in exercise of police powers against recalcitrant owners who are unable or unwilling to control infestation.

June 27: U. S. Forest Service and Texas Forest Pest Committee made another aerial survey. Some groups of infested trees were observed, but these had been detected already in the bi-weekly flights conducted by Texas Forest Service. The U. S. Forest Service was somewhat critical of the control

aspects of the project, e.g., on July 3rd, Bennett stated: "Unless all of you cooperate, I believe control will be expensive and a losing battle." There was actually more cooperation going on than was apparent to Bennett. He could have gotten this information had he talked to the project coordinator.

July 10: Stanley wrote Governor Daniel to inquire about financial assistance on beetle control.

July 15 and 16: U. S. Forest Service personnel examined the control operations with Green of Texas Forest Service, project coordinator. They reported that the Texas control crews of private owners had caught up with all known "hot spots", i.e., groups of "sorrel-topped" pines, the evidence of beetle attack.

July 17: Governor Daniel replied to George Stanley's letter of July 10 re financial assistance.

July 18: Charles Chapman of Texas Department of Agriculture acknowledged by letter to Folweiler receipt of a copy of the draft of agreement arrived at between Young and Edwards on 24 June. He was referring it to the Attorney General for some interpretation.

July 22: As a result of the USFS inspection of the control work the previous week, Brieglab, director of the Southern Forest Experiment Station, USFS, wrote Folweiler: "Control operations are now progressing nicely and the infestation has been substantially reduced. However, - - there should be no let-up in close vigilance and control action." A copy of the letter was supplied to George Stanley.

July 23: Folweiler presented to Texas Department of Agriculture a draft of a memorandum of understanding on who does what in the exercise of police powers that may be needed in the southern pine beetle epidemic.

July 28: Tom Easley of Nona Mills Corporation gave permission to Texas Forest Service to control an infestation on lands of C. D. Ferguson Estate that holds title to 48 acres in the A. B. Mitchell Survey, Abstract 408, Hardin County. Ferguson refused to do anything although he had been requested bp letter from the project coordinator to control the infestation. Ferguson is a resident of Leesville, Louisiana.

July 28 and 29: Texas Forest Service controlled the Ferguson infestation.

July 30: Folweiler wrote to Stanley to suggest that the Texas Forest Pest Committee write to Texas Agriculture Commissioner White to request that his agency exercise its police powers to assist in the control of the beetle.

August 22: Texas Forest Service reported to U. S. Forest Service control expenditures of $10,099 between June 9 and June 30. For July, there is incomplete information, but the estimate is $9,500. For August, the estimate is $2,000.

August 23: Weekly report from project coordinator showed that 37 spots had been controlled since June 9 through August 23. Approximately 25 other spots were controlled by Kirby on its own or on Angelina County Lumber lands prior to June 9th. Except for one spot, the control work was carried out by the landowner or someone for him.

ADF/bc

26 August 1958

P-6.3562

STATISTICS

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE EPIDEMIC

CALENDAR YEARS 1958-1962

YEAR	ESTIMATED VOLUME KILLED AND VALUES SAWLOG SIZE M BOARD FEET		PULPWOOD CORDS		CONTROL EXPENDITURES
1958	500				$18,373.01
1959	2,500		2,500		26,161.15
1960	8,000		8,000		109,778.03
1961	17,877		24,000		186,573.57
1962	93,043	2,326,075	111,110	444,440	491,420.72
Total	121,430 @ $25/M = $3,035,750		145,610 @$4.00 = $502,440		$832,306.48

2,770,515

DY/et
May 27, 1963

P-6.3562

STATISTICS

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE EPIDEMIC

CALENDAR YEARS 1958-1962

ESTIMATED VOLUME KILLED AND VALUES

YEAR	SAWLOG SIZE M BOARD FEET	PULPWOOD SIZE CORDS	CONTROL EXPENDITURES
1958	500		$ 18,373.01 ✓
1959	2,500 ✓	2,500 ✓	~~25,466.88~~ 26,161.15
1960	8,000	8,000 ✓	~~110,472.30~~ 109,778.03
1961	17,877	24,000 ✓	186,573.57 ✓
1962	~~111,110~~ 93,043	~~93,000~~ 116,110	491,420.72 ✓
Total	~~139,987~~ 121,430 @ $25/M = ~~$3,499,675~~ 3,035,750	~~121,500~~ 145,610 @ $4.00 = ~~$510,000~~ 502,440	$832,306.48 (6K)

~~19 February 1963~~

DY
5-25-63

P6.3502

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STATISTICS

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE EPIDEMIC

CALENDAR YEARS 1958-1962

ESTIMATED VOLUME KILLED AND VALUES

YEAR	SAWLOG SIZE M BOARD FEET	PULPWOOD SIZE CORDS	CONTROL EXPENDITURES
1958	500		$ 18,373.01
1959	2,500	2,500	25,466.88
1960	8,000	8,000	110,472.30
1961	17,877	24,000	186,573.57
1962	~~100,000~~ 111,110	~~95,000~~ 93,000	491,420.72 *
Total	~~128,387~~ 139,987 @ $25/M = $3,499,675	~~129,500~~ 127,500 @ $4.00 = $510,000	$ 832,306.48

* Expenditures by some owners such as Nona-Mills, Sewall and on National Forests is not included.

To DY

TEXAS FOREST SERVICE

Date 18 Mar.

Be sure you check the volume estimates of the bill in each year, ~~these~~ so they ~~to~~ ave in agreement with any other data on the same subject that we have in our files, then retype.

P